

Message Text

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43

ACTION IO-03

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 EUR-08 NSC-05 NSCE-00 SY-02 IOE-00

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FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6442

INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L MOSCOW 0929

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, ASEC, UR, UR

SUBJECT: SHOOTING AT UKRAINIAN MISSION

1. KORNIYENKO CALLED ME IN TODAY AND HANDED ME A NOTE (SEPTTEL) ON THE SHOOTING INCIDENT AT UKRAINIAN MISSION IN NEW YORK. AFTER I HAD READ THE NOTE, KORNIYENKO STATED THAT THE FOREIGN MINISTER HAD RECEIVED MY LETTER EXPRESSING THE SECRETARY'S PERSONAL APOLOGIES AND REGRETS CONCERNING THIS INCIDENT AND HAD TAKEN NOTE OF IT. WHILE THE SOVIETS APPRECIATED THESE EXPRESSIONS OF REGRET, HE CONTINUED, IT IS NOW TIME THAT ACTIONS WERE TAKEN IN ADDITION TO WORDS. AS THE NOTE POINTS OUT, HE SAID, ANOTHER SUCH INCIDENT TOOK PLACE IN 1971 AND NO ONE WAS PUNISHED FOR THIS CRIME.

2. IN REPLY, I AGAIN REPEATED OUR DEEP REGRET THAT THIS INCIDENT HAD TAKEN PLACE, AND STATED THAT THE SECRETARY PERSONALLY WAS DEEPLY CONCERNED ABOUT THIS MATTER. I NOTED THAT NEVERTHELESS WE COULD NOT ACCEPT THE IMPLICATION IN THE NOTE THAT U.S. AUTHORITIES IN ANY WAY WERE IN FACT "CONNIVING" WITH THOSE INVOLVED IN THIS OR ANY PREVIOUS DEMONSTRATIONS OR INCIDENTS OF THIS KIND. AN INVESTIGA-
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TION OF THE 1971 INCIDENT WAS CARRIED OUT BY THE AUTHORITIES,

I POINTED OUT, AND A SUSPECT HAD BEEN ARRESTED, BUT HE
TURNED OUT NOT TO BE THE GUILTY PARTY. UNFORTUNATELY, THE
PERSON RESPONSIBLE FOR THE 1971 INCIDENT WAS NEVER FOUND.
BUT OUR AUTHORITIES MADE A FULL INVESTIGATION OF THIS
MATTER, I SAID. IN ANY CASE, I ASSURED KORNIYENKO OF OUR
CONCERN AND ONCE AGAIN EXPRESSED OUR APOLOGIES IN THIS
REGARD.

3. COMMENT: KORNIYENKO, WHO CAN WAX INDIGNANT WITH THE
BEST OF THEM, WAS--GIVEN THE OCCASION--VERY RELAXED AND
FRIENDLY THROUGHOUT.
STOESSEL

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